

GEN. HANCOCK DEAD

A Valiant American Soldier Passes to His Peaceful Eternal Rest.

HIS DEMISE CAME UNEXPECTED

End of a Life Spent from His Youth in the Armies of His Country.

HIS BRILLIANT HISTORY TOLD

The News at Washington—Gossip on His Probable Successor—Gen. Howard's Recollections of His Comrade.

A Veteran Soldier Passed Beyond.

New York, Feb. 9.—In front of No. 8 Governor's Island an orderly this afternoon was pacing to and fro. It was the residence of Major-General Winfield Scott Hancock, who died therein at 2:53 o'clock. If the general had lived until the 14th day of the present month he would have counted his sixtieth year, having been born in Norristown (Pa.), February 14, 1824. In a second story front room, furnished with soldier-like simplicity, lay the remains of a general who, as the guard remarked, led his troops to more battles than any of his military contemporaries.

The death of General Hancock was not merely a surprise to his family—it was a shock to them as to his friends. Twenty days ago he started on business connected with the department of the Atlantic to Philadelphia, where he remained two days, and then proceeded to Washington, where he had business. In Washington a bold developed itself on the bank of his neck. It was lanced January 29, and as the general was much inconvenienced by its presence, he returned to New York several days sooner than designed. During the first week of February the bold developed into a malignant carbuncle, which suppurated constantly and prevented rest or sleep. Dr. Janeway was called, and it was not until marked weakness resulted from the presence of the carbuncle the surgeon discovered General Hancock suffering from diabetes and kidney trouble. Dr. Janeway called in consultation Dr. Southernland, medical director of the department, and Dr. A. M. Stimson of New York. The medical men concluded the case was assuming a very serious form on Monday.

At 10 o'clock Monday night, before going away, Dr. Janeway found the patient in good spirits and able to assist himself, and left him apparently improved. At 6:15 this morning Mrs. Hancock dispatched an orderly for Dr. Janeway as the general was sinking rapidly. The doctor came speedily and found the general in a comatose state, with feeble pulse and all premonitory symptoms of death present. He summoned the two physicians already in attendance, and administered injections of brandy and ether, and carbonate of ammonia and brandy were administered. These, however, only alleviated the suffering of the soldier, who gradually sank away until death was touched at 2:53 p. m., as stated. When death came the three physicians and the hospital steward and only persons present were Mrs. Hancock, who was then in an adjoining room.

The news of the general's death had been floating abroad for some time. Little was known when messages of condolence began coming to the island. Among them is the following: "Asst. Surgeon, Feb. 9.—Mrs. General W. S. Hancock: I have this moment heard of the death of General Hancock and wish to express to you, my dear madam, my deep sympathy and condolence for the loss of your very distinguished and faithful officer and the country one of its best citizens."

So far as could be learned no definite arrangements for the funeral had been agreed upon up to a late hour. The funeral was stated by one of the staff officers that Mrs. Hancock had expressed herself as being opposed to a military funeral; that it was her desire that the body be embalmed and that simple and unostentatious as possible. It is also said that Mrs. Hancock is opposed to having the body embalmed and that she is lying in state. In connection with one of the officers to-night, that gentleman stated that in all probability only immediate relatives and a few intimate friends would be invited to attend the obsequies, and that only eight or ten officers of his immediate staff and a small detachment of soldiers would accompany the remains to the grave.

Throughout this city to-night, wherever people were asked, the subject of General Hancock's death was the subject of comment, and its announcement were not known a challenge to surprise. The death, though occurring at an advanced age, was the subject of the evening papers, and thus the masses were made aware of the fact, while at the clubs and hotels the topic was discussed by the soldiers who gradually sank away until death was touched at 2:53 p. m., as stated. When death came the three physicians and the hospital steward and only persons present were Mrs. Hancock, who was then in an adjoining room.

Str. Louis—General Whipple—General Mizer has been here, and says Hancock is dead. It is possible I should go to Cincinnati to-night. Telegraph me, can I do anything to manifest my love for him or his widow. The general is dead. Fitzhugh Lee telegraphed as follows: Richmond, Va., Feb. 9.—Commanding Officer: All parties and all classes in Virginia deplore the death of General Hancock. The country mourns the loss of a superb soldier and noble citizen. I personally grieve that the general will be buried. I desire it possible to attend the services.

It is expected the general will be buried at Norristown (Pa.), beside his daughter Ada, who died in 1877. The general leaves his widow and three grandchildren—two girls and one boy—named Maud, Ada and Gwynn, the issue of the general's son Russell, who died December 18, 1884, and whose loss the general has ever since mourned bitterly.

Major General Whipple will assume command of the department, and Lieutenants Colonel Jackson and the president shall appoint General Hancock's successor from Generals Schofield, Terry or Howard. In Orders in reference to funeral ceremonies are expected from Washington to-morrow. In the meantime the body will be embalmed by the officers of the post. In the general order the president shall promulgate the announcement of General Hancock's death, when the regulation mourning will be adopted. Plans were made to be promulgated at half past ten on the announcement of his death.

The general will probably be interred at Norristown (Pa.).

EFFECT OF THE NEWS.

Universal Sorrow at the Capital City—Gossip on Succession.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—[Special Telegram.]—The announcement of the death of General Hancock was received here this afternoon with universal surprise and regret. Two weeks ago General Hancock was here and received marked attention in social as well as military circles, and this fact caused many persons to doubt the correctness of the report of his sudden death. It is a singular coincidence that Judge Kelley prepared a bill yesterday which he intended to introduce on

Monday next, providing for the revival of the grades of general and lieutenant general, in which the president is authorized to appoint Sheridan general and Hancock lieutenant general. Judge Kelley said to-night that he was moved to prepare this bill mainly for the reason that General Hancock will retire from active service on account of age in February, 1887, that he was a gallant soldier who deserved special recognition for his distinguished services, and that it would be a graceful tribute for congress to revive the grade of lieutenant general, that it might be conferred on Hancock upon the eve of his retirement from the army. Judge Kelley expressed great regret that Hancock was prematurely cut off before he could be given this additional evidence of the esteem in which he was held by the country, because the judge was convinced that this bill would have received the almost unanimous vote of the house.

The death of General Hancock and the retirement of General Pope next month will necessitate the appointment of two new major generals to fill the vacancies thus occasioned. Howard and Terry stand at the head of the brigadiers, and are pretty certain to be advanced. The vacancies that will be caused by the advancement of these two officers in the principal grades will cause an interesting contest among the friends of the eligible colonels.

The zossips are at work in the prediction of the changes which will soon be made. Major General Schofield will undoubtedly be ordered to Governor's Island, as General Pope will be relieved on March 16. This will leave two vacancies in the list of major generals. President Cleveland will undoubtedly appoint Brigadier Generals O. O. Howard and A. H. Terry, as they are the two ranking brigadiers. These promotions will leave two vacancies in the roster of brigadier generals. There are twenty-five colonels of infantry, ten of cavalry and five of artillery from whom the president will make his selection. It has never been the practice to pay any attention to the lineal rank of colonels in selecting brigadiers, and President Cleveland will probably choose the two officers who may best suit his own ideas. It is conceded in army circles, however, that Colonel Thomas H. Ruger of the Eighteenth Infantry, now commanding the school of application at Fort Leavenworth will be one of the new brigadiers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—[Press.]—A telegram announcing the dangerous illness of General Hancock was received by the president at 10 o'clock Monday night. He called the cabinet then in session. Just after the cabinet adjourned a second telegram was received conveying the intelligence of his death. The flag on the white house was immediately placed at half mast, and the president soon after issued the following executive order: "The flag on the white house be at half mast, and the president's office be closed for one day."

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—[Times.]—The death of Winfield Scott Hancock, senior major general of the army, and a patriot and valiant defender of his country, an able and heroic soldier, spotless in his life, and a devoted friend of the cause of the Republic, was announced to the president at 10 o'clock Monday night. The president was deeply affected by the news, and he immediately ordered the flag on the white house to be at half mast, and the president's office to be closed for one day.

The president also sent the following telegram to Mrs. Hancock: "The president and the cabinet have just received the news of the death of General Hancock. He was a brave and noble soldier, and a patriot and valiant defender of his country. The president and the cabinet are deeply affected by the news, and they sympathize with you in your bereavement. The president and the cabinet will do all in their power to comfort you in your sorrow."

IMMEDIATELY ON THE DEATH OF THE INTELLIGENCE OF THE DEATH OF GENERAL HANCOCK, THE FLAG ON THE WHITE HOUSE WAS PLACED AT HALF MAST, AND THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE WAS CLOSED FOR ONE DAY. THE PRESIDENT ALSO SENT THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO MRS. HANCOCK:

"The president and the cabinet have just received the news of the death of General Hancock. He was a brave and noble soldier, and a patriot and valiant defender of his country. The president and the cabinet are deeply affected by the news, and they sympathize with you in your bereavement. The president and the cabinet will do all in their power to comfort you in your sorrow."

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

A Life Spent in the Military Service of His Country.

Winfield Scott Hancock was born in Montgomery County (Pa.) February 14, 1824. He was educated at the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., and in 1846 was appointed a cadet at the United States Military Academy, from whence he was graduated and promoted in the army to be brevet second lieutenant of infantry July 1, 1848, receiving his full commission of second lieutenant in 1849. He was promoted to be first lieutenant in 1850. In 1855 he was promoted to be captain, and in 1858 he was promoted to be major in the same department. For more than three years subsequent to his graduation he served on frontier duty. In the war with Mexico (1847-48) he served with his regiment at San Antonio, Chihuahua, Molino del Rey and the assault and capture of the city of Mexico. He was promoted to be lieutenant colonel in 1857, and in 1858 he was promoted to be colonel, and in 1859 he was promoted to be major general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1861, and in 1862 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1863, and in 1864 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1865, and in 1866 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1867, and in 1868 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1869, and in 1870 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1871, and in 1872 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1873, and in 1874 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1875, and in 1876 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1877, and in 1878 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1879, and in 1880 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1881, and in 1882 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1883, and in 1884 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1885, and in 1886 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1887, and in 1888 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1889, and in 1890 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1891, and in 1892 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1893, and in 1894 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1895, and in 1896 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1897, and in 1898 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1899, and in 1900 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1901, and in 1902 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1903, and in 1904 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1905, and in 1906 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1907, and in 1908 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1909, and in 1910 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1911, and in 1912 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1913, and in 1914 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1915, and in 1916 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1917, and in 1918 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1919, and in 1920 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1921, and in 1922 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1923, and in 1924 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1925, and in 1926 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1927, and in 1928 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1929, and in 1930 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1931, and in 1932 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1933, and in 1934 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1935, and in 1936 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1937, and in 1938 he was promoted to be general. He was promoted to be lieutenant general in 1939, and in 1940 he was promoted to be general. 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